

Addendum to the formal Productivity Commission Submission from Charitable Reuse Australia.

As requested in our feedback meeting, here is some additional information and links to help inform any next steps arising from our formal submission.

Recommendation 4

National Reuse Data Studies to Identify Reuse Policy Development and Targets:

- Please see links to the successful Reuse Data Studies in NSW and TAS, enabling these states to measure and quantify the environmental, social and economic impact of reuse:
 - NSW: <https://www.charitablereuse.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/NSW-Reuse-Impact-Study.pdf>
 - TAS: <https://www.charitablereuse.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Reuse-in-TAS-Executive-Report.pdf>
 - SA: The SA Reuse Data Study is in progress will be completed by 30 June 2025.
- An opportunity exists for all the remaining State Governments to fund similar studies for a nationally harmonised data set on the impact of reuse in the circular economy.
 - VIC: Opportunity to fund a harmonised Reuse Data Study
 - QLD: Opportunity to fund a harmonised Reuse Data Study
 - WA: Opportunity to fund a harmonised Reuse Data Study
- Aligned with the Reuse Data Studies, the State Governments may also wish to fund a Reuse Impact Calculator in their states to enable councils and reuse organisations to drill down into smaller datasets across 37 categories to accurately measure the impact of existing or planned reuse initiatives.
 - NSW Reuse Impact Calculator: <https://www.charitablereuse.org.au/about/policies-and-projects/nsw-reuse-impact-calculator/>
 - TAS Reuse Impact Calculator: <https://www.charitablereuse.org.au/about/policies-and-projects/tas-reuse-impact-calculator/>

No-one anywhere in the world has yet created a Circular Economy, and it will require deep collaboration between all stakeholders to make this happen.

However, there is one simple straightforward action that the Australian Government can facilitate to generate maximum immediate impact and progress towards a Circular Economy – and that is to incentivise more actions at the top of the Waste Hierarchy, such as Reuse.

Australia needs to honour the Waste Hierarchy in action as well as principal, in order to take the next obvious step towards a Circular Economy. Funding a nationally harmonised Reuse Impact Data Study across all states will provide the evidence base for Governments to begin integrating higher order interventions (like reuse and repair) into policy. Once they are embedded in policy, appropriate targets can be set and appropriate interventions reviewed.

This is a very simple, easy and obvious next step – with maximum efficacy based on the tenets of the Waste Hierarchy.

- The more we reuse, the less we waste.
- Reuse is second only to reducing consumption for environmental benefits.